

Removal of the Seat of Government.

Last year a resolution passed the House of Representatives in favor of locating the Federal Capital somewhere in the Mississippi valley. Nothing came of the matter, and since that time all discussion in Congress has ceased in regard to the subject. A recent article in a leading Western paper, the Cincinnati Commercial, renews the question, and urges that New York City is the proper location for the seat of Government. The argument is based upon the fact that New York is the largest city and the commercial center of the country, while Washington is merely a provincial town. We do not suppose the discussion will amount to anything more than a few sensational editorials in the papers.

Continued Slanders.

We had supposed that the threatened troubles with England and Spain would shake the venom of Radical politicians towards the South, but that seems not to be the case. "No opportunity is omitted to publish the most outrageous slanders and lies against the Southern people. Even the President gravely intimates that population and capital are waiting for the assurance of protection and quiet before moving Southward. They will remain in our borders for ever, if every act of murder and arson and robbery, committed by vagrant negroes, is to be perverted into outrages by Ku Klux Klans on unoffending citizens for political opinions. If the President and his organ are to countenance and give credence to such falsehoods, then indeed are we never to have peace.

A miserable vagabond, living among the negroes, with "no white associate in the town or community," who had devoted his whole time and energies in arousing the prejudices and arraying the freedmen against the whites, was recently found murdered on the highway in Jefferson county, Georgia. This man, Dr. Benjamin Ayer, had just returned from Atlanta with his entire pay as a member of the Legislature in his pocket. He reached Louisville, the town he called his home, about night, tired and hungry. He applied to two colored men for permission to remain all night, but was refused, even in one instance to lie down on the floor on his own overcoat. He left to seek lodgings, and was seen afterwards in company with a colored man. A short time afterwards his body was found near one of the houses, the skull fractured by a blow from a club. The money and pistol of the deceased were not found.

The next night Dr. Ayer's pocket-book and a large sum of money were found on the person of a negro named Wilson, who had been a witness at the inquest. Money was also found on the person of a brother of Wilson's, and a girl to whom Wilson was paying his devotions, which they say was given them by Wilson. Dr. Ayer's pistol was also proved to have been in Wilson's possession subsequent to the murder.

These are the simple facts of the case. Nothing more than what has happened often in every State, and will again so long as the heart of man is prone to wickedness. Ayer had done much to make the negroes of his county idle and vicious. He cared not what damage he did them so that he reaped the benefit of their credulity and ignorance. Returning home after a long absence, rich with the spoils of the public treasury, he falls a victim to the lawlessness and covetousness which he had done so much to inculcate. The very object for which he had sold his manhood and betrayed his race was the cause of his death, and those for whom he had professed friendship, but had corrupted, were his murderers.

The facts of the case were briefly telegraphed to the press, and we supposed the matter would have been left to the Courts of the State, and the negro and his accomplices properly dealt with. But a Radical, a friend of Congress, a loyal patriot and a member of the Legislature of Georgia had been murdered, an opportunity too good to be lost, so the Washington Chronicle concocts a dispatch, or has one gotten up by its prolific Atlanta outrage manufacturer, as follows:

"Atlanta, Ga., April 18.—Dr. Benjamin Ayer, of the Georgia Legislature, a Republican, and a staunch Republican, was brutally and inhumanly murdered near his home in Jefferson county by a Ku Klux, on Thursday night last. He was found on the public road shot through the head. Thus the risk of the Georgia delegation has perished by the warlike.

After the particulars of the murder were published, and the name of the murderer given, with the certain facts connecting him with the transaction, the organ of the President, again on the 20th instant, repeats its original lie with the following additions having as little truth, and resulting from the same malice as that which dictated the first falsehood:

"The question naturally presents itself, would he have been found dead by the roadside had he not been a friend of Congress and a Republican? He is said to have been the only white man in the county who had the courage to vote for General Grant. We learn from private sources that many outrages are being committed against the negroes in counties of Columbia, Lincoln and Elbert, and that in Johnson county a man who had been notified by the Ku-Klux to leave the town by a certain day named, was attacked at his house and 'killed.' It is currently reported also, among the Georgians in this city, that a man named Webster, who is said to have been an assistant private of internal revenue, has been badly maltreated in Houston county. Other Georgians here, however, state that Webster has not been maltreated, but has been hanged. These are some of the results of leaving Georgia under rebel rule during the vacation of Congress. The result is still left unsettled by the failure of Congress to take action upon the matter, and the result is that in many portions of the State prominent Republicans will be secure either in life or property during the entire summer and fall.

And this explains the cause of the slanders. Congress did not place Georgia under 'loyalists.' Georgia did not ratify the Fifteenth Amendment. Georgia voted for SEYMOUR and BLAIR. A Democratic Senator and Democratic Members of Congress have been elected. In other words, Georgia is a Democratic State, and her reconstruction must be reconstructed. The recognized organ of the President must therefore willfully and maliciously manu-

facture slanders upon her people in order to justify action on the part of Congress. If that paper and its Senate Chamber warriors can provoke a foreign war, they will make patriotic appeals to these now slandered people to uphold the national honor and to rally to 'the flag.' We shall see.

Foreign War and Domestic Peace.

Such peaceful warriors as Senators SUMNER and CHANDLER, men who have long upheld "the flag" on paper and in Congress, who have fought for their country behind their desks and on Pennsylvania Avenue, are determined to plunge the United States into war with England or Spain, or both. These men do not expect to shoulder the musket, but only to scent the battle from afar. They feel it only by its blessings in the shape of shoddy contracts for their "friends."

This same class of men began to fight the South after the surrender of the Confederate armies, except the services of a few rendered before the battle of Manassas. Now, as these politicians have not yet permitted the late war to cease, we would advise them, as being prudent, to "let us have peace" at home before we begin to fight abroad. With a country divided in feeling, in interest; with bitter memories harrowed up continually by vindictiveness and oppressions and slanders; with arrogance and hate on the one part engendering poverty and humiliation on the other, we can assure these firebrand veterans that the United States is in no condition to seek a foreign war.

Memphis Commercial Convention.

A great Commercial Convention is to meet in Memphis on the 18th of May. The Committee of Invitation make the following suggestions in regard to representation:

To facilitate the deliberations of the Convention, the committee would respectfully suggest the following ratio of representation, to wit: That the Governor of each State and Territory will appoint a delegate, not exceeding ten for the State at large, and one for each Congressional District.

That each city and town will appoint but two delegates for a population under five thousand, and one for each additional ten thousand. That each incorporated railroad, steamboat, manufacturing or mining company will appoint but two delegates.

That each Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade will appoint but one delegate for every one hundred members or fractional hundred. Every one appointed or specially invited, will notify the committee if he can attend, and will bring with him some form of credential as a delegate.

The principal objects in view are:

To make an effort to build up direct trade with Europe; to discuss the necessity of a Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean; to consider the leveeing of the Mississippi to prevent its overflowing the most productive cotton lands in the world, and to consider the subject of immigration. Most of these questions are of great importance to North Carolina, and we trust our business men will take some steps to secure a proper representation in the approaching Convention. It will not do for our people to remain quietly at home while their neighbors are engaged in stirring enterprises to build up their commercial and agricultural importance and to direct attention to their States through channels which must claim the consideration of capitalists and immigrants. If we, relying upon the great advantages which we possess and the inducements we can offer, "hide our light under a bushel," the one or the other will never be known or appreciated. We must mix in with the business men of other States. We must learn by association what measures they are inaugurating to build up their sections, and compare them with those we are fostering. We can learn much from their experience, and impart much that will be of benefit to them. If North Carolina builds a Chinese wall around her enterprises, to prevent rivalry or from timidity, we fear they will not be discovered by those who should be more acquainted with them, and our jealousy and modesty will be serious obstacles to our progress.

Let us take part in these movements inaugurated by the leading business men of the South. We certainly can lose nothing, and we can gain much from a kindly association with our neighbors and friends.

Fayetteville and Western Railroad.

In publishing, as we do below, the action of a meeting of the citizens of Rowan and Davie counties, held in Salisbury on the 21st instant, which we have withheld until this morning in order to prominently insert in our editorial columns, a question is again revived which formed the subject of frequent comments in the JOURNAL in 1866-'67, and which was discussed at the same time with much interest at the meetings of the Chamber of Commerce. The point at which the western terminus of the Western Railroad shall be located is a question of the first importance to the people of Fayetteville and Wilmington, and to the welfare of the road itself. Fortunately, as we conceive, all these interests are identical. The citizens of Fayetteville can have no interests to subvert in the building of this road which do not accord with the welfare of the people of Wilmington. And benefits conferred upon these two places will be in exact proportion to the profits of the road. The business which will add to the commerce, wealth and population of Fayetteville and Wilmington will add to the transportation and passengers of the Western Railroad. If the road is located so as to drain the section of country around Fayetteville for the benefit of other towns and States, then the people of that locality will sacrifice their future hopes of renewed prosperity for a convenient and expeditious route of travel Northward.

What is desired and should be obtained by the location of this road, is to bring to the manufacturers and foundries which we hope soon again to see in successful operation in and around Fayetteville, the products of the rich valleys of our western counties, then to be manufactured into articles of commerce, and shipped through our port to the markets of the world. And in return we hope to see transported to the Western counties over this road the products of foreign countries which seek here a port of entry. By this means we believe that wealth and prosperity will come to the two places and to the road.

And the entire State will reap in a great degree the benefit of such a traffic.

We have thought, and still regard it as better that the Western Railroad should have been extended to High Point, Salem, Mount Airy, and thence to the Virginia line, because it would open a new and fertile country, and we would be without a rival for their trade. But this seems at present impracticable. We therefore publish the resolutions of the Salisbury meeting to urge their importance upon our own people and those of Fayetteville. We had supposed that before we could be in connection with Western North Carolina by means of this route we would possibly obtain the same ends by the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad by means of a branch from Lincoln to Hickory Tavern, and we presumed our Fayetteville friends and the Western Railroad would hesitate to build a road to Salisbury to find in addition to a competition at that point with the lines to Norfolk and Richmond, Hickory Tavern, also a shorter line from Hickory Tavern to this city. But under present circumstances this scheme is not likely to be adopted. We fear the management of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad will soon pass into hands hostile to this city, and the western end will probably be operated in the interest of other roads and ports. How long this will continue we cannot tell, but sufficiently long, we expect, for the Western Railroad to be in operation to Salisbury if that work is pushed vigorously forward.

We therefore shake hands with our friends of Rowan and Davie, and wish them Godspeed in their efforts to direct attention to Salisbury as the western terminus of this road.

The meeting at which the following preamble and resolutions were adopted was presided over by Maj. WILLIAM M. ROBBINS; Gov. VANCE and Judge OSBORN were among the speakers; delegates were appointed to attend the meeting of the Board of Directors in Fayetteville, and it was recommended to the Commissioners of Rowan and Davie counties to subscribe liberally towards building the road:

WHEREAS, The amended charter of the Western Railroad Company authorizes the Directors of said road to extend the same so as to connect with the North Carolina Road at, or between, Salisbury and Greensboro; and whereas, the Directors of said road, at a recent meeting at Fayetteville, have directed the route from the present western terminus of said road to be surveyed to Salisbury, and a report of the same to be made to the next meeting of the Board, to be held in Fayetteville on the 5th day of May; therefore,

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting said road should connect with the N. C. Road, and Western N. C. Road at Salisbury, for the following reasons:

First, That it is almost in an air line from the port of Wilmington on the Atlantic coast to the western terminus of the shortest line from any of our ports to the West.

Second, That so direct a connection with the Atlantic coast, and the West, will induce such an amount of commerce and travel as will unquestionably make it the most profitable road in North Carolina.

Resolved, That the citizens of Rowan and Davie, pledge themselves that said counties will do all in their power to forward, by great expense by subscription to its capital stock and otherwise.

Resolved, That we especially invite the attention of the Board of directors of said road to the great advantages of this route, as by taking this route the appropriation of \$500,000 made for the extension of said road between the North and South Yakin Rivers, will be secured.

Delegates to the Medical Society of North Carolina. The Secretary of the State Medical Society informs us that the delegates and members to the Society will only be charged half fare upon the railroads. The approaching meeting in Salisbury is expected to be a large and interesting one, and it is hoped large accessions will be made to the membership.

The value of these meetings has been felt far and wide in the profession—not only in this State, but among our neighbors—elevating and stimulating the profession to such reforms as will redound to the benefit of the people and the welfare of the State.

It seems to us proper that not only those should attend who are warm advocates of the course of the Society, but those also who do not so heartily agree with its course, in order that the greatest good may be accomplished. In a word, let all attend who love and honor their profession.

We publish a most interesting letter this morning concerning our enterprising and growing neighbor up the Weldon Railroad. We have watched the increasing strength and growth of Wilson with much interest and pleasure, and it has been a source of regret that our merchants have let its business pass away almost entirely to other points, with scarcely a struggle to retain it. There are no more reliable and substantial people anywhere. Industrious, prosperous, blessed with a fertile soil and healthy climate, Wilson is the centre of a promising section as any in this part of the State. Its trade is very large, and much of it can be drawn to our city if the proper effort is made.

We hope when the Cape Fear Agricultural Association gets fully under way, and the planters and merchants and the citizens generally of that immediate county are attracted here by the exhibitions and pleasures which its fairs will hold out, that we will in a considerable degree renew our business relations with the merchant and farmer will find inducements here in dry goods, groceries, and hardware unequalled in the State, while our retailers can supply all articles of family wants and necessities at prices as low as in the Northern markets.

Robbery—An Atrocious Attempt to Murder. A friend writes to us from Little River, South Carolina, as follows:

Little River, S. C., April 17, 1899.

Gentlemen: Editors: In seeing your columns and seeing the atrocious acts and crimes committed all over the country, I have concluded that we have been blessed with the good and honesty that any people could expect under Radical domination; that the negroes have behaved exceedingly well towards the whites, and have gone to work seemingly with the intention to better their condition; and all seem to be trying to make an honest living. But let the vile offender come among us on Friday night, the 5th inst., a band of robbers went to Mr. F. W. Gore's blacksmith shop, secured the necessary tools, went to the store some distance to the woods, then, with the tools they had procured from the shop, broke it open and took from it the contents, which was

about one hundred dollars in money, a repeater, and some other things. But not being altogether disinterested in these misfortunes Mr. Gore gave a general invitation to all the neighbors to attend a party at his home, on last evening, and while there were all enjoying a social party, some outlawed villain crept up to the room where they all were, and fired into the window, shattering the glass, the ball passing through the room, causing a general shrieking and crying among the ladies, while the gentlemen rushed out of the room to find the villain, but he had absconded to the woods near by, and could not be found. Fortunately as the ruling bell rang upon all wrong, the ball mysteriously passed through the room without injury to any one except the fright on the part of the ladies and a partial breaking up of the party. Whether the crime was aimed for some one whom the cowardly villain was afraid to meet like a man or who should unfortunately be his victim, we do not say, but we do say that it was the most atrocious act that has ever been committed around the village of Little River, and we do hope that the perpetrators may be found and made to suffer for their cowardly and atrocious acts. The perpetrator of the shooting affray is supposed to be a white person.

A. Y. M.

Correspondence of the Journal.

Things in and About Wilson.

From a point so comparatively unknown, and generally depreciated by most of those at a distance, the reader will not expect a very interesting letter; nevertheless Wilson is becoming a place of no little interest, and as an agricultural and manufacturing section, is quite as important as any inland point in the State. The town numbers some two thousand inhabitants, and is of less than twenty years growth. Energy, enterprise and industry have always marked its career, and a more wholesome, generous, clever, intelligent, moral and refined people are not to be found within the borders of our State. It is one of the prettiest and most pleasant towns in the South, and the surrounding country is nowhere surpassed for beautiful and well-cultivated farms, and thriving, industrious and happy farmers. It is, in a word, just such a locality as one always likes to get into.

A cabinet shop, two carriage factories, two establishments for the manufacture of plows and other agricultural implements, a saw, blind and door factory, operated by steam, an iron foundry, and two turpentine distilleries, constitute the manufacturing interests of the town at present, but within a short distance the Barefoot Brothers are operating an extensive grist, flooring and saw mill, moved by water power. And here let me remark that the water power is equal to any in the United States, and a site is presented up and down both sides of the stream, for miles, ample for the manufacturing interests of an empire. One of the very best sites for a paper mill is found here, the water always as clear as crystal, and the supply never failing. I am utterly astonished that the attention of capitalists and manufacturers from abroad has not been drawn to this point, and the unequalled advantages it offers are not more widely known and appreciated. An iron mine of unusual wealth is also found to exist in the upper end of the county, awaiting the hand of enterprise to develop it.

The trade of Wilson is the largest and most profitable on the line of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, the naval store business alone being equal to the whole trade of many larger and better known places.

But growing and truck farming is another branch of industry fast developing itself into the first importance. Some idea of the extent of the fruit and vegetable culture here may be obtained from the fact that the late cold snap inflicted a loss on the county of quite fifteen thousand dollars by the damage to the fruit and truck farms.

The cotton culture is carried on in this section to an extent seldom equalled, and the yield in dollars and cents to the labor and capital employed is the best in the State of the South. I predict that this section, in a few years, will be one of the wealthiest in the South, and if immigration could once be directed to this point there would be no end to its prosperity. I am slow to understand why the people hereabout do not draw attention to their beautiful and rich section of country, and the numerous advantages here offered capital and industry.

Here resides the venerable William Hooper, who may justly be styled the father of education in North Carolina. He is a man of a liberal and noble mind, a school, which his name alone ought to be sufficient to make the first of the State. This is a very healthy town, being situated on the highest point of land between Wilmington and Weldon. Parents having daughters to educate should not overlook the Quince Female College.

Wilson is a good school, I also did here, conducted by Professor Arrington, on whose shoulders the mantle of the elder Ringham is said to have fallen. The newspaper press is in the hands of that excellent journalist and able journalist, Mr. C. S. McDowell, and the town is connected with the Richmond Enquirer. His paper, the Plaindealer, is one of the best weeklies in the State, and is deservedly popular throughout Eastern Carolina. I am so struck with the business-like appearance of Wilson, and the accomplished prosperity of the country round about, that I am convinced that Wilmington might establish a profitable commercial intercourse with this people if she would only make the effort, and use a little printer's ink as judiciously as do the Norfolk merchants.

I am glad to find the JOURNAL circulating largely here (as where does it not), and the people regard it as the leading press of North Carolina.

The politics of Wilson are Caucasian and eternally Democratic, for you know the politics of Wilson, and the old Edgecombe. It is hinted and talked here, to some extent, that the political opinions of a late resident, well known as an uncompromising Democrat, now absent from the State, have undergone a most violent radical change. I will not give the name, but can but wonder what's in the wind now?

For the female loveliness of Wilson, it is not for me to speak, whose allegiance is due in another quarter, but I may remark that I have found women lovely wherever I have journeyed, and Wilson by no means constitutes an exception.

The beautiful game of croquet is generally indulged in here, now, by the young people, and is, indeed, a pleasant pastime.

Col. Thos. B. Kenan, late Democratic candidate for Congress in this district, is now practicing law in partnership with Maj. Jno. W. Dunbar, the accomplished Editor of the late North Carolinian. Quite an interesting case has been going on here before Mr. Justice Taylor, for some time, in which Maj. Dunham and Hugh Murray, Esq., measured legal swords. Both manifested skill and ability in the management of their case, and I predict for these young men eminence in the profession which they have chosen, and for which they evince so much fitness and aptitude.

I had almost forgotten to mention the recent discovery of a mineral spring in the

suburbs of this town, the qualities of whose water, analysis demonstrates, is very superior. "The Spring" is already a place of resort for the townspeople of an evening, and is justly appreciated by everybody.

The great fire of 1867 marred the beauty of Wilson, but ere I visit here again, I hope to see the burnt district rebuilt, and I understand there is some prospect of its being done.

Mr. E. G. Clark, near the depot, is erecting a large and elegant brick building, which, when completed, will be the finest piece of architecture in the place, and will do no discredit to Wilmington.

In conclusion, I am delighted beyond measure with Wilson, and I take my leave of her noble people with no pleasure. I shall visit them again, and in the meantime do try to induce our Wilmington merchants to look after the rich harvest of this magnificent section.

THE ROSIN BILL.

We republish below, for the information of our merchants and those interested, the recent Act of the Legislature regarding the weighing of rosin at this port:

AN ACT RELATING TO THE WEIGHING OF ROSIN AT THE PORT OF WILMINGTON.

Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: That all rosin sold in the city of Wilmington shall be weighed by two weighers of their deputies.

Section 2. That said weighers of rosin shall be appointed by the Governor of the State, and may be removed by him at any time.

Section 3. That the weighers of rosin shall appoint one or more deputies to assist them in the performance of their duties.

Section 4. That the fee for weighing shall be (3) cents per barrel, and said weigher shall mark the weight of each barrel thereof.

Section 5. That said weigher shall be required to make out and deliver a certified copy of the weight of each lot of rosin, giving the weight of each and every barrel, to be delivered to the purchaser of said rosin, and also a duplicate copy shall be furnished to the seller, in consideration whereof, said weigher or his deputy shall be entitled to the amount in section 1 one-half of said amount to be paid by the purchaser, and one-half by the seller.

Section 6. Provided, That this act shall apply only to such rosin as is sold in the city of Wilmington. Provided further, That no rosin shall be required to be weighed more than once.

Section 7. That any person selling rosin in the city of Wilmington, without having been weighed as aforesaid, shall forfeit for each and every barrel so sold twenty-five dollars, to be recovered upon complaint before any Justice of the Peace, one-half of said fine to go to the benefit of the city of Wilmington, and one-half for the benefit of the informant.

Section 8. That said weigher shall give bond, with good security, in the sum of \$10,000, to be approved by the Board of Aldermen of the city of Wilmington, for the faithful and honest discharge of his duty.

Section 9. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this 29th day of March, A. D. 1899.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

OFFICE SECRETARY OF STATE.

RALEIGH, March 29th, 1899.

I, Henry J. Menninger, Secretary of State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act, on file in this office.

H. J. MENNINGER, Secretary of State.

AN IMPORTANT ACT.

Below we publish an important act relative to civil procedure, which it would be well for all parties interested to preserve: AN ACT TO CURE CERTAIN IRREGULARITIES IN THE MODE OF COMMENCING CERTAIN ACTIONS AND TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

WHEREAS, Some doubts have existed respecting actions which have been commenced by writ, and the old form of returnable before a Judge of the Court at term, some by summons returnable in like manner, both of which forms were irregular, and some by summons returnable before the Clerk at a term of the Court, as provided by the Code of Civil Procedure. Now, for the purpose of preventing the inconveniences which may arise by reason of the irregularities above mentioned:

Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, That in all civil actions which have been heretofore commenced, in which the process has been or shall be made returnable in either of the modes above mentioned, no advantage shall be had or taken by reason thereof, but the same shall be held regular, and may be amended as to the process and pleadings at any time, of course, without costs, but upon such other terms as the Judge of the court shall see just, and in those of such actions in which pleadings have not yet been filed, they shall be filed at the term of the Court.

Section 2. This act shall go into effect upon its ratification.

Ratified this 1st day of April, A. D. 1899.

JO. W. HOLDS, Speaker House of Representatives.

TOD. R. CALDWELL, President of the Senate.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

OFFICE SECRETARY OF STATE.

RALEIGH, April 7th, 1899.

I, Henry J. Menninger, Secretary of State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act on file in this office.

HENRY J. MENNINGER, Secretary of State.

Josh Billings on Owls.

The owl is a game bird; he can whip anything that wears feathers—after dark. He is a wise bird and hoots at most things.

He is a solum bird, a cross between a justice of the peace and a county supervisor.

He is a stiff bird, and sits up as stiff as an ex-convict point.

He is a luxurious bird, and feeds on young chickens.

He is a long lived bird, and never was known to take death naturally.

He is a hardy bird, and groze tuft by bling.

He is an honest bird, and always shows an open countenance.

He is a prompt bird, and satisfact at once his outstanding bills.

He is a comfortable bird, and always sleeps in feathers.

He is an attractive bird, and during the day can always be found in.

He is a restive bird, and don't come home until morning.

Thus the owl, a mistaken emblem of solitude and sadness, if we dig into its nature closely, is emphatically one of the boys, and belongs to the club.

Fourteen English baronets have died since January 1, 1899.

There are, it is said, 130,000 strangers in Rome, and board is six dollars a day.

Extraordinary Law—Blasted Capitalists—Look Sharp!

The attention of our readers is called to the following law, which seems to have escaped public attention. It is taken from section 12, paragraph 5, of "an act to provide for the collection of taxes," &c. Ratified March 13, 1869.

After providing for listing credits, &c., the paragraph referred to reads as follows: "If any credit be regarded as not entirely solvent it shall be given in at its estimated value. Provided, That no Judge of the Superior Court or Justice of the Peace shall give judgment on any credit for more than it was valued at when given in; no officer shall collect, on questions or otherwise, more than aforesaid value."

Holders of notes on their fellow-citizens must remember, in listing their taxables and valuing such rates, that their own estimate of value may be brought against them when seeking to collect their securities.

We presume the lawyers may try to bring the Constitution of the United States to oppose and vanquish this most novel law, but certainly there seems to be fun ahead.—Haleigh Sentinel.

A Very Strange Story.

The Newton (Penn.) Enterprise says: Our readers will recollect the attempted assassination of Samuel Temple, at Yardleyville, Bucks county, Pa., he having been shot three different times while working in a mill. We now have to record another phase in the mysterious business.

On Saturday morning last, Mr. John R. Biting found a letter under his store door, addressed to Samuel Temple. When Temple came in it was handed to him, and he showed it to the road. It was afterwards shown to and read by other persons. It was dated at New York, March 20, containing four pages, written in an excellent female hand, and signed "Viola," and the substance is as follows:

Some two years ago she was riding with an attendant near Fairmount Park, this city, when the horse took fright and she was thrown from her saddle, her foot being fast in the stirrup. In this dilemma, Temple, who happened to be on the road, came to her assistance, disengaging her, and thus saved her life. That she is wealthy and highly educated, and in gratitude to Temple, she was anxious to become his wife.

She shortly addressed two letters to him, expressing her gratitude and love, but Temple disregarded them. Then determining to see him, she showed up at his place, and he, who was at the time, showed her to the purpose employed four Spanish assassins, offering each of them one thousand dollars to accomplish her object. That she wrote him the letter, requesting him to meet her at Bordentown. She had been waiting for him, and he, who was at the time, showed her to the purpose employed four Spanish assassins, offering each of them one thousand dollars to accomplish her object. That she wrote him the letter, requesting him to meet her at Bordentown. She had been waiting for him, and he, who was at the time, showed her to the purpose employed four Spanish assassins, offering each of them one thousand dollars to accomplish her object.

On last Tuesday, the 13th of April, the Jefferson Society, revering the memory of him whose fame dates back to the very dawn of American Independence, celebrated the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, whose name she proudly bore. She was sitting on a sofa, and she was the signal of the approaching storm. A dense crowd thronged in the spacious hall of the University to witness the scene soon to be presented, and to dwell with silent rapture upon the words of the orator selected for the occasion. After a few preliminary formalities and the reading (by Mr. Truck, of Maryland), of the Declaration of Independence, the noblest production of the great sage, the President, Mr. R. S. Williams, of Alabama, introduced, as the Anniversary Oration, Mr. Elias E. Messers, of North Carolina. The speaker, who was a fine and beautiful man, remarks preparatory to ushering us into the field, from which he was to call his many-bred flowers of rhetoric, announced as his theme, "The Influence of Surroundings on Man." His subject was well selected to say it was well treated, and he secured the constant and every one upon whom his persuasive voice fell.

To give you an epitome of his speech, he first discussed the influence of woman upon man's character, portraying briefly, but beautifully, the potent influence she exerted in the formation of the nation, and the variety of climate causes a great diversity of manners and customs. He then pointed out the influence the form of government exerts in the development of man's intellect, and lastly, he instituted the inquiry as to whether there is not some immutable principle by which we may shape our conduct, and be saved from the various trials incident to life. Religion he thought was the directive principle, and one calculated never to mislead. He therefore earnestly hoped that, assuming this as our standard, we would bear it proudly through the trials of life, and emerge victorious from its various contentions. We would be protected by its sacred folds when we have planted it on the ramparts of Eternity. The speech was of a happy length, being only forty minutes. It was well received—the audience manifesting their intense appreciation by frequent demonstrations of applause.

Our final celebration will take place on the 18th of June. I cordially extend an invitation to you, and if it would be of any avail I would gladly extend the same to the fair ladies of our city. Most respectfully, I hope you will pardon my familiarity, but I assure you that my letter would not have a roach such a length if the first part had not been dictated by a heart pregnant with hopes for the future reorganization of our university, and the latter part by a feeling of admiration for one of North Carolina's sons whose presence gives token of a bright and glorious future.

P. D. W.

Soap Suds.

A cistern or tank, of the capacity of from two to four hogheads, should be constructed in the vicinity of the sink or laundry of every farm house, and a system of conductors so arranged as to lead the suds and slops into it as they are made.

This liquid matter is a powerful fertilizer, containing the food of plants in a state of solution, and consequently in a condition to be readily taken up and absorbed by vegetables as soon as applied.

Irrigating gardens with soapsuds, means of promoting vegetable growth, especially in dry weather. Some have considered the value of suds to be equal to that of the same weight of manure; this, however, is probably an exaggerated